

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

SAM-01 IO-11 SAB-01 ACDA-10 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12

/128 W

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R 270939Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9923

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 0667

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR IS US

SUBJ: HARIF ARTICLE ON RABIN US VISIT

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF JANUARY 26 ARTICLE
BY MAARIV POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH HARIF OUTLINING
OBJECTIVES OF RABIN'S US VISIT INCLUDING:

A) CALL FOR OVERALL SETTLEMENT EFFORT AT GENEVA,

B) WARNING AGAINST SUBMISSION TO NEW SYRIAN DEMANDS UPON
EXPIRATION OF UNDOF MANDATE ON MAY 30, AND

C) RECOMMENDATION FOR US TO BLOCK SOVIET/SYRIAN MOVES INIMICAL
TO FURTHER PEACE EFFORTS. HARIF ALSO REVIEWS POSITION OF
VARIOUS MINISTERS AT JANUARY 25 CABINET MEETING.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE PRIME MINISTER WILL PROPOSE TO WASHINGTON
THE PRINCIPLES OF A JOINT POLICY THAT WILL BE BASED ON THE
DAMAND FOR AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EACH OF THE
ARAB COUNTRIES. TO THAT END HE IS SCHEDULED TO PROPOSE THE
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RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. MR RABIN WILL EMPHASIZE

THAT THE TIME IS NOT FAVORABLE FOR FURTHER INTERIM SETTLEMENTS;
THEREFORE THE U.S. OUGHT TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE (ISRAELI)
DEMAND FOR OVERALL SETTLEMENTS, EVEN IF AT THIS STAGE THIS
APPEARS TO BE IMPRACTICABLE.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER WILL WARN THE U.S. AGAINST FURTHER
SUBMISSION TO SYRIA IN MAY, WHEN THE QUESTION OF AN EXTENSION
OF THE UNDOF MANDATE ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS WILL ARISE AGAIN.
IT MAY BE ASSUMED THAT THE SYRIANS WILL WANT TO EXPLOIT THAT
SITUATION FOR FURTHER POLITICAL EXTORTIONS, AND THAT SUCH A
MOVE MAY POSSIBLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY MILITARY THREATS.

4. IT WOULD BE BETTER, THEREFORE, TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE
AMERICANS IN ADVANCE THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT AGREE UNDER ANY
CIRCUMSTANCES TO CONCESSIONS, SOLELY IN ORDER TO SATISFY THE
SYRIANS. MR RABIN HINTED BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE THAT IN HIS
TALKS IN WASHINGTON HE WOULD MAKE AN EFFORT "TO PREVENT
SUPERFLUOUS EXPECTATIONS" FOR ISRAELI CONCESSIONS AS A CONDITION
FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE IN MAY. THIS SUBJECT WILL FIGURE
PROMINENTLY IN HIS TALKS WITH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON.
RABIN BELIEVES THAT BEHIND THE EXTREMISTS DEMANDS OF DAMASCUS
STANDS THE SOVIET UNION, AND IT IS UP TO THE U.S. TO STOP THE
RUSSIAN-SYRIAN MOVE, WHOSE SOLE OBJECTIVE IS TO UPSET THE
STEP WHICH THE U.S. HAS TAKEN WITH ISRAEL AND EGYPT SO FAR.
ACCORDING TO THE PRIME MINISTER, IT WAS POSSIBLE TO DISCERN
THE EXTREMIST APPROACH OF THE SOVIET UNION DURING THE INFORMAL
BEHIND THE SCENES TALKS WINDING UP THE MIDDLE EAST DEBATE IN
THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IT TURNS OUT THAT THE MOST EXTREMIST
FORMULATIONS WERE CONTRIBUTED BY THE SOVIET DELEGATE, JACOB MALIK.

5. THIS EVALUATION WAS UNDERLINED YESTERDAY BY THE PRIME
MINISTER AT THE CABINET SESSION... IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
PRIME MINISTER'S SUGGESTION, THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT HOLD A
POLITICAL DEBATE YESTERDAY, NOR WAS ANY NEW PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD
AS A GUIDELINE FOR THE PRIME MINISTER. RABIN ANNOUNCED THAT HE
WOULD REGARD HIMSELF AS BOUND SOLELY BY PREVIOUS DECISIONS
OF THE GOVERNMENT.

6. DURING THE CABINET DISCUSSION THE USUAL STANDS WERE GIVEN
EXPRESSION:
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--MINISTERS MOSHE KOL, ABRAHAM OFER AND VICTOR SHEMTOV SPOKE
AGAINST "A STALEMATE" AND IN FAVOR OF ISRAELI INITIATIVES,
INCLUDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH JORDAN.

--MINISTER OF WELFARE, ZVULUN HAMMER, CLAIMED THAT IT WAS NOT
IMPORTANT WITH WHOM ONE SPOKE, BUT ABOUT WHAT, AND SAID THE
GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO DECIDE EXACTLY WHAT IT WILL DISCUSS IN

NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE IT COMES OUT WITH A POLITICAL INITIATIVE.
AS TO THE PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH JORDAN, WITH
THE ADDITION OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES, HAMMER SAID THAT
HE REGARDED THAT AS A FORMULA FOR THE TRANSFER OF TERRITORIES
TO THE PLO.

--FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON REGARDS THE PRIME MINISTER'S
JOURNEY AS AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN ISRAEL'S CAUSE,
AFTER THE VISIT OF THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT, ANWAR SADAT, TO
THE U.S. ACCORDING TO ALLON, MR RABIN IS LEAVING FOR THE U.S.
"IN ORDER TO CLARIFY (THE SITUATION) NOT TO COMMIT HIMSELF".

--THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, MR HAIM ZADOK, EXPRESSED THE OPINION
THAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH JORDAN,
AND TH GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO GO TO NEW ELECTIONS
APPLIES ONLY IN EVENT THAT, AS A RESULT OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH
JORDAN IT WULD BE NECESSARY TO GIVE UP TERRITORY IN JUDEA AND
SAMARIA. END TEXT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TELAV00667
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760030-0762
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760116/aaaaanop.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hattaycs
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUN 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by hattaycs>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HARIF ARTICLE ON RABIN US VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, IS, US, (RABIN, YITZHAK), (HARIF, JOSEPH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006